Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (previously presented) A method for inhibiting the development of insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, said method comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective dosage of glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD).

Claims 32- 34 (canceled)

Claim 35 (previously presented) A composition comprising glutamic acid decarboxylase, which is at least 99% w/w/ pure, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for parenteral administration to a human patient.

Claims 36-49 (canceled)

Claim 50 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the GAD is recombinant GAD.

Claim 51 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the GAD is synthesized on a peptide synthesizer.

Claim 52 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the GAD is purified from the central nervous system tissue.

Claim 53 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the patient is a prediabetic patient having autoantibodies to GAD.

Claim 54 (previously presented) The composition of claim 35, wherein the GAD is lower molecular weight (GAD65).

Claim 55 (previously presented) The composition of claim 35, wherein the GAD is recombinant GAD.

Claim 56 (previously presented) The composition of claim 35, wherein the GAD is synthesized on a peptide synthesizer.

Claim 57 (previously presented) The composition of claim 35, wherein the GAD is purified from the central nervous system tissue.

Claim 58 (canceled)

Claim 59 (previously presented) The composition of claim 54, wherein the GAD65 is human GAD65.

Claims 60-61 (canceled)

Claim 62 (previously presented) A method of preventing or inhibiting the development of insulin dependent diabetes, wherein said method comprises administering to a patient at least 99% w/w pure GAD protein or a fragment thereof, which, when administered to the patient, prevents or inhibits the development of insulin dependent diabetes.

Claim 63 (previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the GAD protein or fragment thereof is a recombinant protein.

Claim 64 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the GAD is administered intravenously.

Claim 65 (previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the GAD or fragment is administered intravenously.

Claim 66 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the GAD is administered subcutaneously.

Claim 67 (previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the GAD is administered subcutaneously.